



## FASIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Attorney General John Ashcroft	FROM: Ross Cook Presto Telecommunications
FAX NUMBER: 202.307.1454	DATE: 17 JAN 02
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PHONE NUMBER:	SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER: cookross@cathlink.net
RE:	YOUR REFERENCE NUMBER: (619) 227.2665

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January 17, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft, USDOJ  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

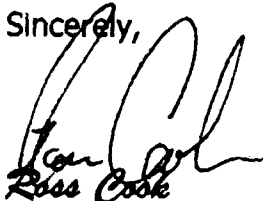
Unlike AT&T of years past, Microsoft is not a monopoly. Microsoft has maintained its position of strength not by force, but rather by the superior quality of its products, its commitment to service, and its integration of software.

I do not necessarily wish to make excuses on Microsoft's behalf, but the facts are that consumers and businesses alike simply prefer the reliability of Microsoft's products to any of those offered by its competitors. Never let it be said, however, that there is neither room for improvement, nor room for someone else to develop a market better products than they. This is, after all, the very nature of the IT marketplace.

In spite of these facts, however, our government badly misunderstood Microsoft's position in the volatile world of software and made the erroneous assumption that since Microsoft was as good as it was, it simply had to be breaking the law. This was never so.

This settlement is good, providing changes in both design and licensing of Windows. It should be accepted, if only to remove this litigation from the courts and be done with it. I am writing to voice my support of it, while at the same time I am communicating my displeasure over this entire sordid episode.

Sincerely,



Ross Cook

Chief Information Officer